

REMARKS

By this paper, claims 1, 2, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24 and 27 have been amended. Claims 1-27 remain pending.

In the outstanding Office action, claims 6, 11-13 and 22 were withdrawn from consideration. Additionally, claims 1, 24 and 27 were objected to and claims 1, 5, 7-10, 14-21 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response thereto, the Applicant has amended claims 1, 24 and 27 as suggested by the Examiner to overcome the claim objections. Moreover, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to remove the reference to the balloon catheter being housed within the main catheter and claim 2 was amended to delete the recitation of structure being less than 7 mm. Claim 2 was also amended to recite the structure which comprises the endovascular device recited in claim 1. Additionally, the dependency of claims 14, 17, 18, 19 and 20 was changed so that those claims depend from claim 2. As such, it is believed that each of the claim objections and rejections of the claims under § 112 have been traversed.

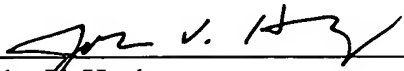
In the outstanding Office action, claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 14-19, 24 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Leonhardt et al. (U.S. 5,713,917). Claims 2, 7, 20, 21 and 23 were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form and to address the § 112 rejection. In response thereto, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 24 and 27 to recite a jacket guard that mates with a terminal end of a main catheter or a delivery catheter. Significantly, the Leonhardt et al. reference does not teach such structure and in fact discloses a tapered head which is longitudinally displaced from a terminal end of an elongated sheath introducer. Accordingly, it is believed that independent claims 1, 24 and 27, as well as the claims depending therefrom, define patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be reconsidered, the claims allowed and the application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: 
John V. Hanley
Registration No. 38,171

JVH/kst
Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201
33725.1